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Forty-eighth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

OBSERVER STATUS FOR THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Letter dated 20 August 1993 from the representatives of Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to address Your Excellency, upon instructions from our Governments, which are participating States of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), to request, in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly of an item entitled "Observer status for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in the General Assembly".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum concerning the request is attached to the present letter (see annex).

(Signed) Thanas SHKURTI
Permanent Representative of Albania

(Signed) Alexander ARZOUMANIAN
Permanent Representative of Armenia

* Reissued for technical reasons.

(Signed) Thomas HAJNOCZI
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of
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(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV
Permanent Representative of
Azerbaijan

(Signed) Guennadi N. BURAVKIN
Permanent Representative of
Belarus

(Signed) Paul NOTERDAEME
Permanent Representative of
Belgium

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Permanent Representative of
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(Signed) Slavi Zh PASHOVSKI
Permanent Representative of
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Permanent Representative of
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Permanent Representative of
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(Signed) Karel KOVANDA
Permanent Representative of
the Czech Republic

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(Signed) Heino AINSO
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(Signed) Hervé LADSOUS
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Permanent Representative of Georgia

(Signed) Detlev GRAF ZU RANTZAU
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Permanent Representative of Greece

(Signed) Iván BUDAI
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(Signed) Kornelius SIGMUNDSSON
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Iceland

(Signed) Francis Mahon HAYES
Permanent Representative of Ireland

(Signed) Francesco Paolo FULCI
Permanent Representative of Italy

(Signed) Akmara K. ARYSTANBEKOVA
Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan

(Signed) Djoumakadyr A. ATABEKOV
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(Signed) Ivars R. SLOKENBERGS
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(Signed) Claudia FRITSCHE
Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein

(Signed) Anicetas SIMUTIS
Permanent Representative of Lithuania

(Signed) Anne BASTIAN
Permanent Representative of Luxembourg

(Signed) Joseph CASSAR
Permanent Representative of Malta

(Signed) Jan MVA DE MARCHANT ET D'ANSEMBOURG
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Netherlands

(Signed) Martin HUSLID
Permanent Representative of Norway

(Signed) Zbigniew Maria WLOSOWICZ
Permanent Representative of Poland

(Signed) Pedro CATARINO
Permanent Representative of
Portugal

(Signed) Vitalie SNEGUR
Chargé d'affaires of the Republic of
Moldova

(Signed) Ioan BARAC
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Romania

(Signed) Yuliy M. VORONTSOV
Permanent Representative of
the Russian Federation

(Signed) Peter TOMKA
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Slovakia

(Signed) Igor KERSTEIN
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Slovenia

(Signed) Juan A. YANEZ-BARNUEVO
Permanent Representative of Spain

(Signed) Peter OSVALD
Permanent Representative of Sweden

(Signed) Victor H. BATIOUK
Permanent Representative of Ukraine

(Signed) Thomas L. RICHARDSSON
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland

(Signed) Saidmouhtar SAIDKASIMOV
Minister for Foreign Affairs of
Uzbekistan

ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

With a view to meeting the new challenges in the CSCE area, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) is studying, on a priority basis, ways and means to strengthen its functions to maintain international peace and security within its area of competence.

At the Helsinki Summit in July 1992, the participating States of the CSCE declared their understanding that CSCE is a regional arrangement in the sense of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, and that it as such provides an important link between European and global security.

Taking note of the matters of which the Security Council has been seized in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Stockholm Council Meeting of CSCE in December 1992 reviewed experiences with the instruments for early warning, conflict prevention and crisis management, in particular in the field of preventive diplomacy (including fact-finding and rapporteur missions) and, where appropriate, peace-keeping. It was noted that, in association with efforts to bring about political solutions, stability could be enhanced by armed contingents for peace-keeping purposes. The Helsinki Summit adopted provisions concerning CSCE peace-keeping.

Various types of CSCE missions have accordingly been initiated with a view to conflict prevention and conflict resolution. At present, the number is seven in areas of the former Yugoslavia and the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The mandates vary considerably: from focusing on early warning to crisis management in a strict sense. Practical experience from these endeavours has thus been added to the discussion of the CSCE role and capacity in the area of preventive diplomacy and peace-keeping.

The Human Dimension Mechanisms of CSCE are increasingly being used as a major foundation for the efforts of CSCE at early warning and long-term conflict prevention. Their further elaboration and utilization will considerably strengthen the ability of CSCE to address root causes of tension and to refine its mechanisms for early warning in potentially dangerous situations. Steps have been taken to integrate the Human Dimension more fully into the political consultations and concerted actions of the participating States. Ways are being considered of using the 1993 Implementation Meeting on Human Dimension Issues to investigate possible new means of utilizing human rights mechanisms for these purposes and to improve monitoring of compliance with CSCE commitments.

At the Stockholm Council Meeting it was decided that the relationship between the United Nations and CSCE should be further developed. The Committee of Senior Officials was requested to examine the practical implications of the understanding, expressed in the Helsinki Summit Document, that CSCE is a regional arrangement in the sense of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations.

Bearing in mind the necessity to keep forms of interaction between CSCE and the United Nations flexible and adequate to each specific situation, the Chairman-in-Office of the Committee of Senior Officials was asked to keep close

contacts with the United Nations in order to promote regular exchanges of information, cooperation and coordination and avoid duplication of efforts. The Chairman-in-Office of the Committee of Senior Officials was also asked to establish regular contacts with the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure that the United Nations and CSCE participating States are kept informed of relevant activities, especially in the fields of early warning, conflict prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, as well as the promotion of democratic values and human rights.

At the Stockholm Council Meeting it was also decided that a representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations would be invited to the meetings of the Council and the Committee of Senior Officials of CSCE.

The spirit of these decisions has been reflected in an exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE Council in May this year, on an agreement on a framework for cooperation and coordination between the United Nations Secretariat and CSCE.

Presently CSCE has 53 participating States: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan. Since 8 July 1992, the participation of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in CSCE meetings has been suspended.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has observer status.

APPENDIX

Draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Noting the desire of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to intensify its cooperation with the United Nations,

1. Decides to invite the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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Addendum

Add the following name to the list of signatories:

(Signed) Madeleine ALBRIGHT
Permanent Representative
of the United States of America

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